



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/749,287 Confirmation No. 5766
Applicant : Gene R. Anderson et al.
Filed: : December 26, 2000
TC/A.U. : 2839
Examiner : Prasad, Chandrika

Docket No. : 1613370-0013
Customer No. : 007470

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January 22, 2004

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Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure imposed by 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 to inform the Patent Office of all references coming to the attention of Applicants or attorneys or agents for Applicants which are or may be material to the examination of the subject application, Attorneys for Applicants hereby invite the Examiner's attention to the reference(s) listed on the accompanying PTO Form SB/08A and SB/08B.

Applicants submit the present information disclosure statement under 37 CFR 1.97(c)(2).

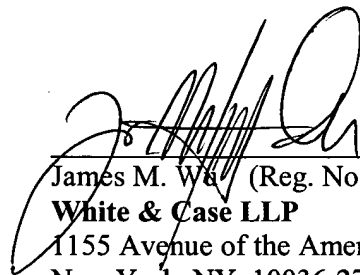
This submission is understood to complement the results of the Examiner's own independent search. The submission should not be construed as a representation that a

search was made, or that the cited items are inclusive of all the relevant and material citations that may be available publicly.

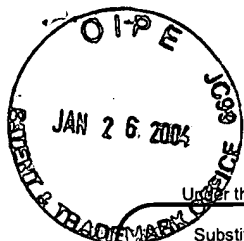
Copies of the cited reference(s) are enclosed. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner review the attached references and that they be made of record in the file history of the above-captioned application.

If there is additional fee required in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge White & Case LLP Deposit Account No. 23-1703.

Dated: January 22, 2004



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PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1

of 1

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/749,287
Filing Date	December 26, 2000
First Named Inventor	Gene R. Anderson
Art Unit	2839
Examiner Name	Prasad, Chandrika
Attorney Docket Number	1613370-0013

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 3,996,461	12-07-1976	Sulzbach et al.	
		US- 4,692,883	09-08-1987	Nelson et al.	
		US- 4,708,833	11-24-1987	Ohsawa et al.	
		US- 4,883,956	11-28-1989	Melcher et al.	
		US- 6,028,724	02-22-2000	Leib	
		US- 6,097,873	08-01-2000	Filas et al.	
		US- 6,181,854 B1	01-30-2001	Kojima et al.	
		US- 6,411,638 B1	06-25-2002	Johnson et al.	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND

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